Two bridges across the Puttanar were in existence some twenty years ago but both of them had been damaged. The need for constructing new bridges in their stead had been pressed at the previous session of the Assembly. For want of bridges, people were experiencing great difficulty. Persons engaged in the coir industry, carried on extensively at Kadakkavur, Pudukurichi, Tazhampalli and other places, had to cross the river several times daily. The ferryman was seldom at his post. The boat was kept very untidy and was slippery. The case was similar in respect of the crossing at the place where the other bridge had stood. The Public Works Department had collected some building materials for the construction of a bridge. The work should be pushed through and the first mentioned bridge should be finished earlier. *Pucca* bridges fit for cart traffic were not required. It would be enough if small bridges 3 feet in width be constructed. A similar bridge across the Mamom river was also necessary.

The chief paddy fields in the Chirayinkil taluk were situated in the Pulikulattu *chira*. But the ryots of this and the surrounding places found it difficult to let in water from the Mamom river. The wooden sluices along the bund of the river put up by the ryots were damaged and breaches occurred in the bund during rainy seasons. In view to prevent such losses, pipes, one foot in diameter, might be laid along the river bund for taking water from the river to the fields. Each of the pipes need only be 25 feet long.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Parameswaran Pillai, your representations will be duly considered. You deal with needs of the taluk in the matter of public works involving expenditure of very large sums. The needs of Chirayinkil will be considered with due regard to urgency and requirements in the taluks of the State taken all together.

94. Needs of the Neduvangad taluk.

MR. MUTTUMPERUMAL PILLAI SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI (*Member Neduvangad taluk*) said that, in the *pakuthies* of Mannukkara and Aryanad, wild elephants were making inroads upon cultivated lands and devastating the crops. On the 2nd Kanni 1102 three rogue elephants—two tuskers and one cow—entered a private compound and, in spite of the best efforts of the local people, the beasts could not be scared away. They still continued to work havoc there and other wild elephants were also occasionally visiting the neighbourhood and causing incalculable loss to the crops. Unless the inroads of the wild beasts were prevented, many registered holdings would have to be relinquished thereby causing loss to the people and the Government alike. In former days arrangements had been for preventing such inroads. Many elephant pits had been dug and there were elephant cages at Neduvangad, Ponmana, Kadakkal and Kulattupuzha. Rewards had been offered for destroying wild animals and fire-arms were supplied to private gentlemen by the Government. Lands were registered in the names of Kanikars in return for their services in destroying wild elephants. People were allowed to occupy *tarisu* lands in the taluk and enjoy them free of assessment for five or six years. But such concessions had been withdrawn with the advent of the Forest authorities. The member prayed for the following relief measures :—

(1) The old elephant pits in the two *pakuthies* mentioned above should be improved in order to capture wild elephants.

(2) An elephant cage should be erected at Aryanad and stringent orders should be issued to the Forest authorities to capture at least five wild elephants every year.

(3) Owners of private lands should be allowed to shoot wild elephants without license if they made inroads on private lands.

(4) If that could not be sanctioned, private lands damaged by wild elephants should be acquired by the Government on payment of compensation and the tax thereon written off the accounts.

The member next requested that the trace leading from Vamanapuram to the Palod-Shencotta road should be converted into a cart road.

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Lastly, a Police outpost should be established at Bharatannur or Kallara in view to check the mischief committed by the rowdies there.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Arrangements will be made to dig pits for capturing the wild elephants now doing damage. Have you got trouble from other wild beasts ?

The member said that when the elephants came on the scene the others fled and he promised to render all necessary help for capturing elephants.

DEWAN : The Chief Engineer will be addressed about the road you mentioned. The work will be done next year. You wanted a Police outpost. Is it required on account of "*anasalyam*" or "*chattambisalyam*" ?

The member said that rowdies were doing a lot of mischief there.

DEWAN : Do you want a Police Station to be located there temporarily for a few years or the permanent establishment of an outpost ?

The member said an outpost would be enough.

DEWAN : That will be considered.

95. Needs of the Quilon taluk.

MR. NARAYANA PILLAI VISVANATHA PILLAI (*Member, Quilon taluk, Group I*) first spoke about the need for raising the level of the culvert at the 5th mile, 1st furlong of the Quilon-Alleppey road so as to enable *valloms* to pass beneath it. That would enable the local people who lived upon coir industry to transport cocoanut-husks by *valloms*. The culvert was situated very near the bar, so that sea-water rushed into the Kattakal *todu* and the adjoining paddy fields and cocoanut gardens and caused much loss to the ryots there. To prevent such inrush of salt water, a sluice should be constructed at a place north of the culvert.

The trace from Ramankulangara tollgate to the Marattadi temple should be converted into a cart road and extended northward. The Marattadi temple was only next in importance, to the Ezhavas, to the Sivagiri Mutt. The road was being used by large numbers of people resorting to the temple and also by others trading in fish, coir and copra. The place was noted for those articles and a peculiar variety of fish called the '*Nayyadi*' was caught from the sea at Marattadi alone.

The village road between the 3rd mile of the Quilon-Alleppey road and the road to Mamootil *kadavu* should be converted into a public road and gravelled, as it was one of the main pathways in the Quilon taluk. For want of a cart road, the school-going population attending the Saktikulangara Girls' School were put to much inconvenience.

The night-soil depôt near Mamootil *kadavu* was a source of annoyance to the local people and the passers-by. It was situated very near the office of the Director of Agriculture, the Tevally Palace and the Residency, and should be removed elsewhere. The Sanitary Commissioner had asked the local Municipal Council to remove the depôt from its existing location. It would be advantageous if an incinerator be established as in other towns.

The road from Kavanad to Aravilakadavu was another chief pathway in the Quilon taluk. It was the only route used for the transport of articles to and from the Kavanad bazaar. It was also used for the transport of manure by the agriculturists. The gravelling of the road had been sanctioned by the Government as a result of the representation made on the subject at the twentieth session of the Assembly but the work was stopped before the whole length of the road was finished. Only one more furlong remained and it should be finished soon.

The Kavanad-Mukkattu *kadavu* road should be converted into a cart road. One-half of its length had already been gravelled. The remaining portion should also be gravelled.

The road joining the 2nd mile of the Quilon-Alleppey road and the Neendakara bar was largely used for motor traffic. It should therefore be metalled just like other chief roads of the Quilon town.

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